

REMARKS

Claims 9-10, 12, 14, 16-23, 35 and 39-47 are remaining in this application, with Claims 35, 39, and 40 amended, and Claims 1-8, 11, 13, 15, 24-34, 36-38, and 48-49 cancelled. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and review of the application as presently amended.

The Examiner rejected Claims 24-25, 28-29, 33-34, 38 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Alicot et al. The Examiner also rejected Claims 11, 13, 15, 26-27, 36-37 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Alicot et al. in view of Gunnarsson. Although the Examiner's statement of the rejection did not include Claims 31-32, the Examiner described grounds for rejection of those claims as well on page 4 of the Office Action. In the interest of advancing this application to allowance, and without prejudice to the filing of a continuation application, Applicants have cancelled the rejected claims. This ground of rejection is therefore deemed moot.

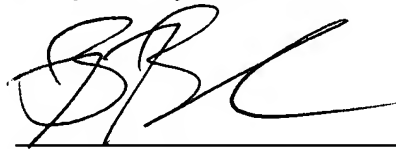
The Examiner rejected Claims 38-49 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 5,939,984. The Examiner also rejected Claims 9-37 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 7 and 9-10 of U.S. Patent No. 5,939,984. Applicants encloses a Terminal Disclaimer that is considered sufficient to obviate this ground of rejection.

The remaining claims (i.e., Claims 9-10, 12, 14, 16-23, 35 and 39-47) are considered to be in condition for allowance. Claims 35, 39, and 40 are rewritten in independent form, including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and a timely Notice of Allowability is solicited.

Serial No. 10/772,221  
July 11, 2005  
Page 11

If it would be helpful to placing this application in condition for allowance, the Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned counsel and conduct a telephonic interview. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition the Commissioner for a two-month extension of time, extending to July 11, 2005 (the first business day following July 9, 2005), the period for response to the Office Action dated February 9, 2005. A check in the amount of \$450.00 is enclosed for the two-month extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR §1.17(a)(2) and \$130.00 for the Terminal Disclaimer pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.20(d). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0639.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Terminal Disclaimer